

CLAIMS:

1. A method for recording a watermark pattern on a color recording medium that forms an image using a number N of colorants, the method comprising the step of forming the watermark pattern using at least two colorants, but fewer than N colorants.
2. A method for recording a watermark pattern according to claim 1 wherein the step of forming the watermark pattern comprises the step of applying an exposure energy onto the color recording medium.
3. A method for recording a watermark pattern according to claim 1 wherein the step of forming the watermark pattern comprises the step of applying an exposure energy onto a donor medium for transfer of colorant onto the color recording medium.
4. A method for recording a watermark pattern according to claim 1 wherein the two colorants are yellow and magenta.
5. A method for recording a watermark pattern according to claim 1 wherein the step of forming the watermark pattern is performed as a manufacturing step for the color recording medium.
6. A method for recording a watermark pattern according to claim 1 wherein the color recording medium is a photosensitive medium.
7. A method for recording a watermark pattern according to claim 1 wherein the color recording medium is a motion picture print film.
8. A method for recording a watermark pattern according to claim 1 wherein the color recording medium is a motion picture negative.

9. A method for recording a watermark pattern according to claim 1 wherein the color recording medium is a microfilm medium.
- 5 10. A method for recording a watermark pattern according to claim 1 wherein the color recording medium is a still imaging medium.
11. A method for recording a watermark pattern according to claim 1 wherein the step of forming the watermark pattern is performed separately
10 from the step of recording image content on the color recording medium.
12. A method for recording a watermark pattern according to claim 2 wherein the exposure energy is light.
- 15 13. A method for recording a watermark pattern according to claim 2 wherein the exposure energy is heat.
14. A method for recording a watermark pattern according to claim 1 wherein the step of forming the watermark pattern is performed during the
20 recording of image content onto the color recording medium.
15. A method for recording a watermark pattern on a photosensitive color recording medium, the method comprising the step of exposing the watermark pattern only to blue-sensitized and to green-sensitized
25 colorant layers, without exposing the red-sensitized colorant layer.
16. A method for recording a watermark pattern on a photosensitive color recording medium having at least
a first colorant-producing component responsive to radiant energy
30 having a first wavelength,

a second colorant-producing component responsive to radiant energy having a second wavelength, and,
a third colorant-producing component responsive to radiant energy having a third wavelength,
5 the method comprising the step of exposing the watermark pattern by applying
radiant energy having said first wavelength, and
radiant energy having said second wavelength,
but not radiant energy having said third wavelength.

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17. A method for recording a watermark pattern on a photosensitive color recording medium having at least a cyan colorant-producing component, a magenta colorant-producing component, and a yellow colorant-producing component,

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the method comprising the step of exposing the watermark pattern to both the magenta colorant producing component and the yellow colorant-producing component but not to the cyan colorant-producing component of the color recording medium.

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18. A method for recording a watermark pattern according to claim 17 wherein the step of exposing is performed as a manufacturing step for the color recording medium.

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19. A method for recording a watermark pattern according to claim 17 wherein the step of exposing is performed prior to exposure of the color recording medium to image content.

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20. A method for recording a watermark pattern according to claim 17 wherein the step of exposing is performed following exposure of the color recording medium to image content.

21. A method for recording a watermark pattern according to claim 17 wherein the color recording medium is a motion picture negative.

22. A method for recording a watermark pattern according to claim 17 wherein the color recording medium is a motion picture print film.

23. A method for recording a watermark pattern according to claim 17 wherein the color recording medium is a microfilm medium.

24. A method for recording a watermark pattern according to claim 17 wherein the color recording medium is a still imaging medium.

25. A method for recording a watermark pattern according to claim 17 wherein the step of exposing the watermark pattern is performed within a camera.

26. A method for recording a watermark pattern according to claim 17 wherein the colorant-producing components comprise dye-forming layers.

27. A method for recording a watermark pattern according to claim 17 wherein the step of exposing is performed during exposure of the color recording medium to image content.

28. A method for recording a watermark pattern onto a color photosensitive recording medium by exposing the watermark pattern only in yellow and magenta colorant-producing layers.

29. A color recording medium that comprises a set of colorant-producing materials, wherein, over at least a portion of the color-recording medium, a watermark pattern is applied to only a proper subset of said set of

colorant-producing materials, said proper subset comprising at least two colorant-producing materials.

30. A color recording medium according to claim 29 wherein
5 the color recording medium is a motion picture negative.

31. A color recording medium according to claim 29 wherein
the color recording medium is a motion picture print film.

10 32. A color recording medium according to claim 29 wherein
the color recording medium is a microfilm.

33. A color recording medium according to claim 29 wherein
the color recording medium is a negative used for still imaging.

15 34. A color recording medium according to claim 29 wherein
the color recording medium is a photosensitive medium.

35. A color motion picture film, wherein, over at least a portion
20 of the color motion picture film, a watermark pattern is applied only to yellow and
magenta dye-producing layers.

36. A recording apparatus comprising
an exposure mechanism for applying a watermark exposure energy
25 onto a color recording medium that comprises a set of colorant-producing
materials,

the exposure mechanism applying the watermark exposure energy
onto a non-empty proper subset of said set of colorant-producing materials.

30 37. A recording apparatus according to claim 36 wherein the
recording apparatus is a motion picture camera.

38. A recording apparatus according to claim 36 wherein the non-empty proper subset comprises a yellow dye-producing layer and a magenta dye-producing layer.

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